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INFO RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 5106
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L KARACHI 03257

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: SHUM, PREL, PK, IR
SUBJECT: IRANIAN AMON AL-LAH MOBARAKI: SENATOR MATHIAS
- INTERESTED

REF: STATE 109859

1. (C) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. UNHCR OFFICE IN KARACHI HAS INFORMED US THAT ISSUE OF AMON AL-LAH (OR AMANULLAH) MOBARAKI HAS BEEN RAISED WITH THEM BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. ACCORDING TO UNHCR, MOBARAKI IS AN IRANIAN BALUCH WHO IS SARDAR (CHIEF) OF THE MOBARAK TRIBE, WHICH RESIDES MOSTLY IN IRAN BUT ALSO HAS MEMBERS IN PAKISTAN SCATTERED FROM THE MAKRAN COAST NORTH TO ZAIDAN. MOBARAKI WAS DESCRIBED BY UNHCR AS THE MOST VISIBLE OF THE IRANIAN BALUCH PRESENTLY LIVING IN KARACHI. SOURCE STATED THAT IRANIAN GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED MOBARAKI'S EXTRADITION FROM PAKISTAN, A REQUEST REPORTEDLY DENIED ON GROUNDS THAT MOBARAKI CARRIES A PAKISTANI PASSPORT. UNHCR OFFICER ADDED THAT MOBARAKI WAS RECENTLY ARRESTED AND IS NOW INCARCERATED IN QUETTA WHERE HE FACES POSSIBLE MURDER CHARGES. UNHCR SOURCE SAID THAT UNHCR IS UNABLE TO INTERCEDE ON MOBARAKI'S BEHALF BECAUSE SUCH A STEP COULD REOPEN ISSUE OF HIS CITIZENSHIP AND PROVIDE POSSIBLE BASIS FOR RENEWED IRANIAN DEMAND FOR EXTRADITION.

3. ACCORDING TO FRONT PAGE STORY IN KARACHI URDU DAILY "JANG" OF JANUARY 31, MOBARAKI WAS FIRST DETAINED IN TURBAT (A TOWN CLOSE TO THE IRAN BORDER IN MAKRAN DISTRICT, BALUCHISTAN) IN CONNECTION WITH THE MURDER OF A BALUCH TRIBESMAN ON PAKISTANI SIDE OF THE BORDER. AFTER JUMPING BAIL AND MOVING TO KARACHI MOBARAKI WAS ARRESTED IN DECEMBER, 1983 BY CENTRAL INVESTIGATIVE AGENCY POLICE (AKIN TO FBI) FOLLOWING ISSUANCE OF A WARRANT BY THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF TURBAT. ACCORDING TO JANG ACCOUNT, MOBARAKI CONFESSED TO MURDERS IN IRAN AND TO HAVING ESCAPED TO PAKISTAN AFTER SEIZING AN IRANIAN GOVERNMENT VAN. WHILE IN PRISON, RELATIVES OF MOBARAKI REPORTEDLY OFFERED A LARGE BRIBE TO POLICE INSPECTOR FOR HIS RELEASE. WHEN THIS FAILED, MOBARAKI'S KINSMEN FILED A CLAIM WITH SIND HIGH COURT ALLEGING THAT THE PERSON DETAINED WAS NOT MOBARAKI, A CLAIM WHICH THE COURT REJECTED. JANG

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NOTES THAT IRANIAN AUTHORITIES THEN FILED AN EXTRADITION REQUEST ALLEGING THAT MOBARAKI HAD COMMITTED 18 MURDERS IN IRAN AND REQUESTED THAT HE NOT BE RELEASED. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER, GOP THEN ASKED GOI FOR DETAILS OF CRIMES ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED BY MOBARAKI IN IRAN. THERE HAVE BEEN NO SUBSEQUENT PRESS REPORTS ON MOBARAKI SINCE ABOVE STORY WAS PUBLISHED.

4. (FYI - CONGEN FSN POLITICAL ASSISTANT HAS BEEN APPROACHED TWICE BY IRANIAN BALUCH TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH ACG TO DISCUSS MOBARAKI WHO THEY SAY IS BEING HELD IN KARACHI. WE HAVE REBUFFED THESE EFFORTS BELIEVING THEY COULD GENERATE SUSPICIONS THAT WE ARE INVOLVED WITH IRANIAN EXILES IN KARACHI. WE WOULD PREFER STRONGLY TO MAINTAIN THIS POSTURE AND, IF NECESSARY, MONITOR THE MOBARAKI CASE THROUGH THE UNHCR.) THIBault
END OF MESSAGE

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